



S. 3294 – UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION EXTENSION ACT OF 2008

FLOOR SITUATION

S. 3294 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) on July 21, 2008. The Senate passed the bill on July 21, 2008, by unanimous consent. The bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, but was never considered.

S. 3294 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 29, 2008.

SUMMARY

S. 3294 amends the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 to extend the United States Parole Commission for an additional three years.

Note: Under current law, the Commission will expire in November 2008.

BACKGROUND

The United States Parole Commission (USPC) is part of the Department of Justice. The USPC is responsible for granting or denying parole requests to those inmates under its jurisdiction. The Commission also supervises those individuals who are paroled. The USPC has jurisdiction over incarcerated individuals serving time for certain Federal crimes, D.C. Code offenses, Military Code offenses, and individuals serving sentences in the United States for foreign crimes. The Chairman of the USPC is Edward Reilly, Jr.

The first Board of Parole had three members and was established by legislation in 1950 as an independent board. Further legislation was eventually passed in 1950, placing the Board under the Department of Justice. Congress passed the Parole Commission and Reorganization Act, effective May 1976. Under this provision, the Board was re-titled the United States Parole Commission.

[Department of Justice - United States Parole Commission](#)

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has not produced a cost estimate for S. 3294 as of July 25, 2008.

STAFF CONTACT

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